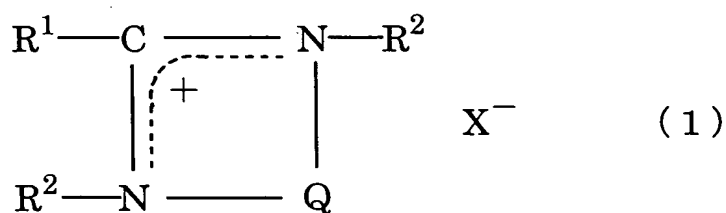


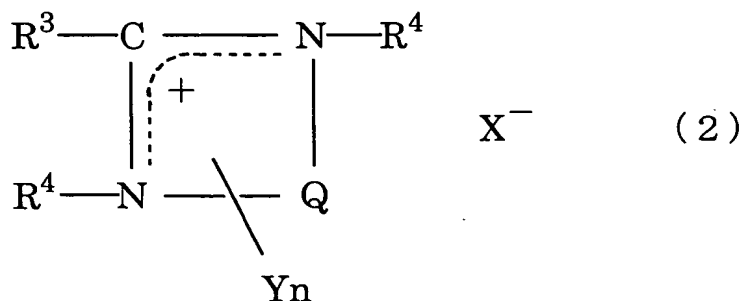
## CLAIMS

1. An electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor comprising a cyclic amidinium salt (B) represented by the general formula (1),

wherein the total amount of a cyclic amidinium salt derivative (A) represented by the general formula (2) is not larger than 10 mole% relative to the sum of (A) and (B):



[In the formula,  $\text{R}^1$  represents a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which may optionally have a hydroxyl group(s),  $\text{R}^2$  represents a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 10 carbon atoms, which may optionally have a hydroxyl group, amino group, nitro group, cyano group, formyl group and/or ether bond-containing group(s), and the two  $\text{R}^2$  groups may be the same or different, Q represents an alkylene, arylene or alkenylene group containing 2 to 10 carbon atoms, which may optionally have a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 5 carbon atoms, an amino, nitro, cyano or formyl group(s), and  $\text{X}^-$  represents a counter anion; the part or whole of the  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  moieties may be bound together to form a ring.];



[In the formula,  $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 20 carbon atoms, which may be substituted with a hydroxyl group(s),  $R^4$  represents a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 10 carbon atoms, which  
 5 may have a hydroxyl, amino, nitro, cyano, formyl and/or ether bond-containing group(s), and the two  $R^4$  groups may be the same or different; Q represents an alkylene, arylene or alkenylene group containing 2 to 10 carbon atoms, which may optionally have a hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 5  
 10 carbon atoms, an amino, nitro, cyano or formyl group(s), and there are cases where there is  $X^-$  or there is no  $X^-$  and, when there is  $X^-$ , it represents a counter anion, and each Y represents a carboxyl group or an  $-OCO_2H$  and, when there is no  $X^-$ , each Y represents a carboxyl group, a carboxyl anion  
 15 group, an  $-OCO_2H$  or  $-OCO_2^-$  group and one Y represents a carboxyl anion or an  $-OCO_2^-$  group; n represents an integer of 1 to 20; the part or whole of the  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  moieties may be bound together to form a ring.]

20           2. The electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to Claim 1,  
               which is producible by dissolving said cyclic amidinium salt (B) in a solvent.

25           3. The electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to Claim 1 or 2,  
               wherein Q is a  $-CH=CH-$  group.

              4. The electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor  
 30 according to any one of Claims 1 to 3,  
               wherein the anion  $X^-$  in (A) or (B) is an ion selected from the group consisting of  $PF_6^-$ ,  $BF_4^-$ ,  $AsF_6^-$ ,  $SbF_6^-$ ,  $N(RfSO_2)_2^-$ ,  $C(RfSO_2)_3^-$  and  $RfSO_3^-$  (Rf representing a fluoroalkyl group containing 1 to 12 carbon atoms).

5. The electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to any one of Claims 1 to 4,

wherein the solvent comprises, as the main component, at least one species selected from the group consisting of  
5 propylene carbonate, ethylene carbonate, butylene carbonate, sulfolane, 3-methylsulfolane, acetonitrile, dimethyl carbonate, ethyl methyl carbonate and diethyl carbonate.

6. An electrochemical capacitor having a polarizable  
10 electrode impregnated with an electrolyte

which contains the electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to any one of Claims 1 to 5 as the electrolyte, and

in which at least one of the positive and negative  
15 electrodes is a polarizable electrode comprising a carbonaceous material as the main component.

7. The electrochemical capacitor according to Claim 6, wherein the carbonaceous material is activated carbon.

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8. An electric double layer capacitor having a polarizable electrode impregnated with an electrolyte

which is producible by using the electrolyte for an electrochemical capacitor according to any one of Claims 1  
25 to 5 as the electrolyte.

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